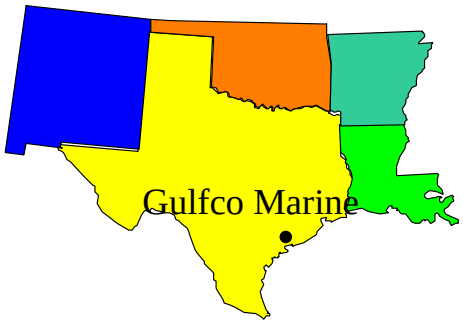
Gulfco Marine Maintenance
Freeport, Brazoria County, Texas



EPA Region 6
EPA ID#: TXD055144539
State Congressional District: 14 & 22

Fact Sheet Updated: May 19, 2004

SITE DESCRIPTION

Location: The Gulfco Marine Maintenance, Inc. facility is located approximately 3 miles northeast of the city of Freeport, Texas, at 906 Marlin Avenue. The coordinates of the site are 28° 58' 00.65" north latitude, and 95° 17' 22.76" west longitude (taken from the U.S. Geological Survey, 7.5 Minute Topographic Quadrangle, Freeport Texas). The site lies within the 100-year coastal flood plain along the north bank of the Intracoastal Waterway between Oyster Creek to the east and the Old Brazos River Channel and the Dow Barge Canal to the west.

Population: The population of the City of Freeport is approximately 12,800.

Setting: The Gulfco Marine Maintenance, Inc. facility is approximately 40 acres in size. The southern part of the Gulfco site drains to the south where it enters the Intracoastal Waterway. A wetland area is located approximately 500 feet south of the site across the Intracoastal Waterway, and twenty miles of wetland frontage lie within 15 stream miles of the site. The Chicot/Evangeline Aquifer system, which is a source of municipal and smaller public water supply systems in the Freeport area, underlies the site.

PRESENT STATUS AND ISSUES

- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is currently in the process of completing the process of gathering evidence in order to determine the existence of Potentially Responsible Parties.

WASTES AND VOLUMES

- A Site Screening Inspection sampling event conducted by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) on January 2000 and a subsequent Expanded Site Inspection also conducted by TCEQ on January 2001 documented the presence (above background levels) of the following hazardous substances at the Site:

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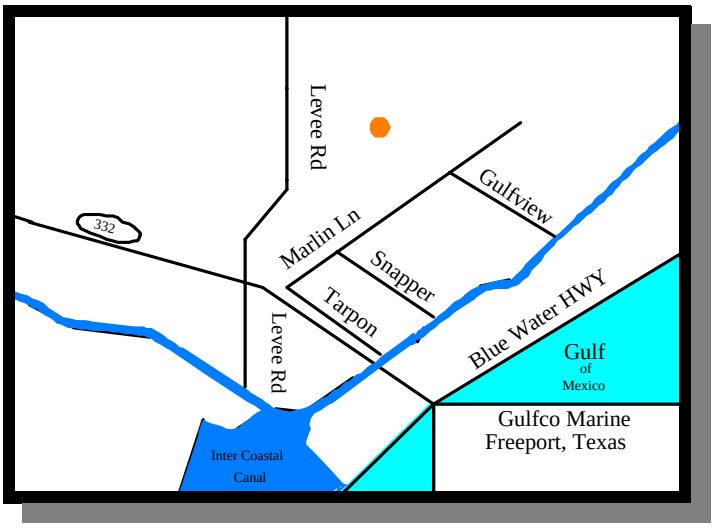
- Volatile organic compounds: methylene chloride, vinyl chloride, 1,1-dichloroethene, bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, carbon disulfide, 1,2-dichloroethene, 1,1-dichloroethane, chloroform, 1,1,1-trichloroethane, benzene, 1,2-dichloroethane, trichloroethene, 1,2-dichloropropane, 4-methyl-2-pentanone, toluene, 1,1,2-trichloroethane, tetrachloroethene, ethylbenzene, xylene, isopropylbenzene, and 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane;
- Semivolatile organic compounds: benzaldehyde, phenanthrene, fluoranthene, pyrene, benzo(a)anthracene, chrysene, benzo(b)fluoranthene, benzo(k)fluoranthene, benzo(a)pyrene, benzo(g,h,i)perylene, naphthalene, and phenol;
- Pesticides: alpha, beta, and delta BHC, dieldrin, 4,4'-DDE, endrin, 4,4'-DDD, 4,4'DDT, endrin ketone, endrin aldehyde, alpha and gamma chlordane, lindane, heptachlor, aldrin, heptachlor epoxide, and endosulfan II;
- Polychlorinated biphenyls: Aroclor 1254; and
- Metals: lead and zinc.

- The volumes of wastes currently present at the Site have not been determined. This information will be obtained during the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study planned for the Site.

NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST

NPL Inclusion Proposal Date:	September 2nd, 2002
NPL Inclusion Effective Date:	May 30, 2003
NPL Deletion Proposal Date:	n/a
NPL Deletion Final Date:	n/a

SITE MAP



SITE HISTORY

The Gulfco Marine Maintenance facility operated as a barge cleaning and waste disposal facility from 1971 through 1979, then as a barge cleaning and offshore platform construction facility until 1989, and finally as a barge cleaning and refurbishing facility until 1998. Operations at the facility involved the cleaning, servicing, and repair of various types of barges, particularly chemical. Chemical barges were drained and pumped to remove product heels, which then were stored in tanks and sold as product. Each barge was washed with water or a detergent solution. Generated wash waters were stored either in surface impoundments, a floating barge, or on-site storage tanks. The barges were allowed to air dry and certified as safe prior to initiating repair work such as welding and sandblasting.

ENFORCEMENT HISTORY

The Superfund Enforcement Program seeks to maximize the involvement of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) in the cleanup of Superfund sites. Statutes provide the EPA with the authority to order PRPs to investigate and clean up sites, negotiate settlements with PRPs to fund and/or perform site cleanups, and commence legal action if the PRPs do not perform and/or pay for the cleanup. A primary goal of the enforcement program is to obtain consensual settlement or, if necessary, compel PRPs to implement site cleanups. The primary tool used to achieve this goal is the Administrative Order on Consent (AOC). When the EPA takes response or enforcement action at a site, the enforcement program's goal is to recover the costs of those actions from the PRPs. Once the PRP(s) have agreed to take response action at a site, the goal of the enforcement program is to ensure that the studies or cleanup activities are performed correctly and in accordance with the AOC and relevant EPA guidance.

HUMAN HEALTH AND ECOLOGICAL RISK ASSESSMENT

- A Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment is an integral part of the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS).
- A Human Health Risk Assessment estimates the current and possible future risks if no action were taken to clean up a site. The EPA's Superfund risk assessors determine how threatening a hazardous is to human health and the environment. They seek to determine a safe level for each potentially dangerous contaminant present (e.g., a level at which ill health effects are unlikely and the probability of cancer is very small). Living near a Superfund site doesn't automatically place a person at risk, that depends on the chemicals present and the ways people are exposed to them.
- An Ecological Risk Assessment is defined as a process that evaluates the likelihood that adverse ecological effects are occurring or may occur as a result of exposure to one or more stressors. A stressor is any physical, chemical, or biological entity that can induce an adverse ecological response. Adverse responses can range from sub-lethal chronic effects in individual organisms to a loss of ecosystem function. Only chemical or physical stressors are subject to risk management decisions at Superfund sites.
- Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessments are performed during the RI/FS.

RECORD OF DECISION

- The final remedy (cleanup alternative) for a site is published in a Record of Decision (ROD). The ROD is the official documentation of how the EPA considered the remedial alternatives and why the EPA selected the final remedy. Before a ROD can be finalized, the EPA must provide a Proposed Plan for public review and comment. This plan summarizes the remedial alternatives presented in the analysis of the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) and identifies the preferred alternative, the rationale for that preferred alternative, and documents that support the EPA's decision. The general public will be notified when the Proposed Plan is open for public review and comment.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- "Community involvement" is the name the EPA uses to identify its process for engaging in dialogue and collaboration with communities affected by Superfund sites. The mission of the Superfund Community Involvement Program is to advocate and strengthen early and meaningful community participation during the EPA's remedial activities at a site. The EPA's community involvement program is founded on the belief that people have a right to know what the EPA is doing in their community and to have a say in it. Its purpose is to give people the opportunity to become involved in the EPA's activities and to help shape the decisions that are made at a site.
- Community Involvement Plan: The Community Involvement Plan (CIP) specifies the community involvement activities that the EPA expects to undertake during the remedial activities planned for the site. A CIP, based on community interview and other relevant information about the site, will be prepared during the early phases of the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS).
- Public Meetings: Meetings will be held during the RI/FS stage.
- Fact Sheets: Fact Sheets will prepared as necessary during the planning and implementation of the RI/FS. These fact sheets will be filed at the Site's repository and distributed to people on the mailing list.
- A public meeting was held in Freeport, TX on August 22, 2003, to inform the community about EPA activities regarding the Gulfco site, and to hear the community's concerns.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT

Availability Notice: September 26, 1998, May 15, 2003
Letters of Intent Received: n/a
Final Application Received: n/a
Grant Award: n/a

SITE CONTACTS

- **Remedial Project Manager (EPA)** (Contact for technical questions)
  Gary Miller; (214) 665-8318 e-mail: miller.garyg@epa.gov
- **Texas Project Manager (TCEQ)** (Contact for technical questions)
  Alvie Nichols; (512) 239-2439 e-mail: anichols@tceq.state.tx.us
- **Site Attorney (EPA)** (Contact for legal questions)
  Barbara Nann; (214) 665-2157 e-mail: nann.barbara@epa.gov
- **Community Involvement (EPA)** (Contact for community relations questions)
  Phyllis Hoey (214) 665-8522 e-mail: hoey.phyllis@epa.gov
- **State Coordinator (EPA)** (Contact for State/EPA agreements)
  Karen Bond; (214) 665-6682 e-mail: bond.karen@epa.gov
- **Regional Public Liaison (EPA)**
  Arnold Ondarza; (303) 312-6777 e-mail: ondarza.arnold@epa.gov

REALIZED CLEANUP BENEFITS

The Gulfco Marine Inc., Site cleanup ensures elimination, treatment, and/or prevention of contaminants that contribute to unacceptable health risks for current and future industrial workers, area residents, and ecological animals due to exposure of contaminated media at the site.